attempts of occupying Indian land are made by Pakistani troops rather than going in for a war like Kargil once again?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) Pakistani troops are not in occupation of any Indian Peak in Northern Drass Sector and there are no reports of any unusual movement by them along the Line of Control (LoC). Firing across the LoC is an ongoing phenomenon.

(c) Adequate military measures are in place to ensure necessary surveillance of the LoC and to maintain its sanctity.

Approval of GLR Plan of Murah Cantt. Gwalior

†2408. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the GLR Plan of Murah Cantonment in district Gwalior has been approved by Government and if so, when it was approved;

(b) whether some land from wards 1 to 7 belongs to private party and if so, the location thereof;

(c) the reasons why the officers from cantonment prevent the construction of buildings and reasons why old houses are demolished without prior notice; and

(d) whether there is a provision to get lay out plans of cantonment sanctioned and if so, the reasons for not approving the lay out plans by the Cantonment Board, Gwalior for the last so many years?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The GLR Plan of Morar Cantonment was approved by Deputy Director, Military Land and Cantonments, Headquarters, Central Command, *vide letter* No. 23707/LC3, dated 19.7.1978.

(b) The villages Lalitpura, Bansipura, Parasadipur, Suraiyapura, Tikoniya, Hardev Singh Ki Tal, Nibaspura, Kachhipura, Kashipura and Ghosipura are situated on private land in Ward No. 1 to 7.

(c) The residents of Cantonments are required to submit building application in terms of Section 179 of the Cantonments Act, 1924, to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

carry out construction etc. for approval. Notices are issued under Section 185 of the Act to such persons who undertake construction without proper sanction. The Cantonment Board authorities have not demolished any old houses in the vicinity.

(d) No provision exists either in the Building Bye-Laws of Morar Cantonment or the Cantonments Act, 1924 to sanction layout plan by the Cantonment Board.

Increasing the strength of Rashtriya Rifles

2409. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has increased the strength of Rashtriya Rifles by adding 13 battalions to counter insurgents and check infiltration;

(b) whether residents of some villages along the borders are being shifted elsewhere;

(c) whether modern sophisticated weapons have been given to Rashtriya Rifles personnel to face infiltrations effectively; and

(d) if not, by when it is likely to be done?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) the strength of Rashtriya Rifles has been increased by 18 battalions since the year 2000-2001.

(b) There is no such proposal regarding the international border.

(c) and (d) Rashtriya Rifles has been provided with modern weapons and equipment like multi grenade launcher, hand held thermal imagers, counter-improvised explosive device etc. to improve the effectiveness of the force in countering infiltration from across the borders and in their counter insurgency role. Modernisation and force equipping is an ongoing process.

Induction of TEJAS

2410. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently TEJAS, developed by the Aeronautical Development Agency, has been tested successfully;